

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay. The examiner has indicated that the case contains allowable subject matter.

Claim 54, which should have depended via claim 53 on independent claim 50, has been found to contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, this claim has been amended to include the subject matter of claims 50 and 51 to make it independent. An irrelevant limitation, "three," has been dropped. Claim 54 is therefore allowable along with claims 55 - 58 dependent from this claim.

Similarly, claim 59 that originally depended directly from independent claim 50, has been found to contain allowable subject matter. Thus the subject matter of claim 50 has been inserted into claim 59 making it and claim 60 dependent from it, allowable.

There are still fewer than four independent claims in the case, so the claim amendments do not entail an extra-claim fee.

The other claims stand rejected primarily on German 198 48 370 of Marconi that shows the structure on which the instant

invention is based and which differs from the instant invention in several important characteristics:

1. In the system of this invention the container is "separable from the housing" (claim 50 lines 17-18), which it is not in DE '370.

2. The supply has relatively movable upper and lower parts 3a and 3b (claim 50, line 4). In DE '370 the comparable parts are fixed relative to each other; it is the container and the supply that are movable relative to each other in DE '370.

3. The container is movable by a slide and a pivot (claim 50, line 9). There is nothing resembling the slide 9 in DE '370.

4. Water is only admitted (claim 50, line 22) only in the coffee-making position of the container. In DE '370 hydraulic pressure opens a spring-loaded valve, not the position of the parts.

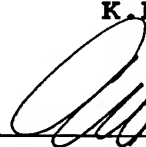
Thus four different features of claim 1 are not seen in or suggested by DE '370. Thus the §102 rejection on this reference must fall.

The only other reference is cited against remote dependent claims and adds nothing to the teachings of DE '370 to form a valid rejection of main claim 50.

Thus all the claims are allowable. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: None.